

REMARKS

In response to the Examiner's rejections as set forth in the Office Action of August 13, 2003, Applicants have amended claims 1 and 7 and canceled claims 5-6 and 13-15. Claims 2-4, 7-12 and 16-30 remain pending.

The amendments to claim 1 adds the limitations present in original claims 5 and 6 (both now canceled). Claim 6 was indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form, and accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 1 and its dependent claims (including rejected claims 11-12 and objected-to claims 2, 4, and 7-10) are therefore allowable.

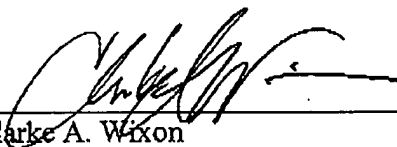
To place this entire Application in condition for allowance, claims 13-15 are canceled by this Amendment. Applicants take no position as to the substantive reasons for the Examiner's rejection and may raise similar claims in a related application. Accordingly, Applicants believe that the amendments contained herein address all of the issues raised by the Examiner in the Office Action of August 13, 2003. Applicants respectfully requests examination of the subject application with a view toward allowance.

As no new claims have been added by this Amendment, Applicants believe that no claim fees are currently due. Applicant respectfully requests that **Deposit Account No. 50-2268** be charged for the requested three-month extension of time. Authorization to charge any additional necessary fees to the Deposit Account, or to credit any overpayment, is hereby granted.

If a telephone interview would be considered advantageous to advance prosecution of this Application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number set forth below.

Respectfully Submitted,

April 23, 2004
Dated


Clarke A. Wixon
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